

EMERGENCY NEWS

FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, Washington
Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

For immediate release

News Release no. 9

Dec. 21, 2006 5:30 p.m.

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Winter Windstorm Update #6

CAMP MURRAY, WA – In the aftermath of the Dec. 14 and 15 windstorm, the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains staffed in support of the recovery efforts of local jurisdictions.

Two weather events

The public should be aware that Washington state is currently dealing with not one, but **two**, weather-related disasters.

The Dec. 14-15 Windstorm still has utility companies, and local and state agencies in response mode. Official recovery operations just got underway for the November Floods that hit the state Nov. 2-11.

One impact is that—depending on which disaster they were affected by—people have to report damages to different places.

- For the December Windstorm, home and business owners need to report damages to their insurance companies (if they have coverage) and, most importantly, the emergency management agency for the county where they are located—*see phone number, below*. County emergency management offices will forward these damage reports to the Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD). Based on the damage figures from the counties, WEMD, in coordination with the Governor's Office, may begin the formal process to request federal disaster assistance.
- For the November Floods, President Bush's Dec. 12 disaster declaration began the process of delivering federal disaster assistance to flood victims in Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, King, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston and Wahkiakum Counties. Homeowners, renters and business owners in those counties who suffered damage may be eligible for disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Assistance from FEMA may include grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious storm-related losses not covered by private insurance. Low-interest disaster loans from SBA are also available for homeowners, renters, and businesses of any size, and private non-profit organizations. State and federal disaster officials encourage people who may be eligible to register with FEMA

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online at www.fema.gov or by calling the agency's toll-free registration line at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**. There is also a TTY line for the speech- and hearing-impaired at **1-800-462-7585**. These numbers will operate from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. PST seven days a week until further notice. For SBA Customer Service Line call 1-800-659-2955 or go on line at www.sba.gov.

Counties are collecting December Wind Storm damage information from homeowners and small business owners until **Dec. 28**. The phone numbers and web sites, below, are for that purpose. Unless indicated otherwise, callers will be able to talk to a person or leave a message.

TO REPORT DAMAGES FROM THE DEC. 14-15 WIND STORM— COUNTIES BELIEVED TO HAVE MAJORITY OF DAMAGE— HOME AND BUSINESS OWNERS WITH PROPERTY DAMAGE SHOULD CALL THE NUMBER PROVIDED BELOW.			
<i>Jurisdiction where you live</i>	<i>Phone number to call</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Internet, if available</i>
Chelan County	509-667-6863 (Sheriff's Office)	You can also report damages at the county's website.	www.chelandem.org
Clallam County	360-417-2525	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Clark County	360-992-9229	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Cowlitz County	360-577-3130	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Douglas County	509-663-9911	24-hour line (Sheriffs Office)	
Grays Harbor County	360-249-3911	8-4 M-F, after hours leave message or use web site	http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/info/DEM/EMD140.htm
Island County	See Note for specific location 8-4 :30 M- F	North Whidbey 360-679-7370 South Whidbey 360-321-5113, ext. 7370 Camano Island 360-629-4523, ext. 7370	www.islandcounty.net/gsa/des/StormDamage.htm
Jefferson County	360-385-9368	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
King County	1-800-523-5044	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	Home & Businesses Only – No downed trees or power outages.
Kitsap County	360-307-5870	6:30-4:30 M-F	
Kittitas County	509-962-7525	9-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Lewis County	360-740-1152	8-5 M-F after hours leave message	
Mason County	360-427-7535	8-6 M-F, after hours leave message	
Pacific County	360-875-9340	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Pierce County	1-866-798-6363	8-5 p.m., Mon-Sun	
San Juan County	360-378-4151	24-hour line (Sheriff's Office)	
Skagit County	360-428-3260	8-4 Thur-Sat, week of Dec. 18; Mon-Fri, week of Dec. 25	

Skamania County	509-427-8076	8- 4:30 M-F, after hours leave message	
Snohomish County	425-388-5060 (NW) 425-776-3722 (ESCA)	8-5 M-F, after hours leave message	
Thurston County	360-754-3360	8-8, M-F, after hours leave message	
Wahkiakum County	360-795-3242	8-5, M-F, after hours leave message	
Whatcom County	360-676-6681	8- 4:30, M-F	
<i>TO REPORT DAMAGES FROM THE DEC. 14-15 <u>WIND STORM</u>— COUNTIES BELIEVED TO HAVE LESS DAMAGE—HOME AND BUSINESS OWNERS WITH SHOULD CALL THE NUMBER PROVIDED BELOW.</i>			
Adams County	509-488-2061	24-hour line	
Garfield County	509-843-3494	24-hour line	
Lincoln County	509-725-9263	8-4:30 M-F	
Okanogan County	509-422-7206	8 a.m. -- 5 p.m.	
Pend Oreille, County	509-447-1988	24-hour line	
Spokane County	509-477-2204	8-5, M-F, recorded message, leave message	
Yakima County	509-574-1900	24-hour line	
<i>TO REPORT DAMAGES FROM THE DEC. 14-15 <u>WIND STORM</u>—HOME AND BUSINESS OWNERS FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES SHOULD CONTACT THEIR LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.</i>			
Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat, Stevens, Walla Walla and Whitman counties.			

Insurance Coverage

The Office of the Insurance Commissioner has published a comprehensive question and answer sheet on Winter Weather Insurance Coverage, it can be found on their website at http://www.insurance.wa.gov/publications/factsheets/Winter_weather.pdf. They have also set-up a consumer hotline number to report problems with insurance companies. The hotline number is 1-800-562-6900.

Energy Outage Update

Puget Sound Energy reports as of 11 a.m. today approximately 75,000 customers are still without power. There are also 6,161 customers served by local Public Utility Districts still without power. Puget Sound Energy outages are broken out by county below:

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PSE by county	Power outages
Island	1,016
Jefferson (Pt Townsend)	30
Kitsap	1,286
North King County	56,068
South King County	12,119
Pierce	75
Skagit	32
Thurston/Lewis	3,451
Vashon	1,453
Total	75,530

Check on Your Neighbors

With many citizens still without power, elderly and at-risk special needs populations are particularly at risk for hypothermia. Check on neighbors, family members, and at risk populations to ensure they are healthy, safe and doing well.

State Agency Support to Counties

- The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) continues to monitor licensed facilities such as Nursing Homes, Boarding Homes and Adult Family Homes. These privately operated facilities have approved emergency plans. If they request assistance, DSHS will contact local emergency responders.
- DSHS continues to monitor agencies that provide in-home services to vulnerable adults.
- The State EOC coordinated for the delivery of a Nextel cell phone amplifier to a shelter in Pierce County.
- The Washington National Guard provided personnel and generators to several areas in need of emergency power.

Shelters

The American Red Cross (ARC) reports as of 3 p.m. today seven shelters are open in King (6) and Thurston (1) counties. Four shelters in Pierce County are on standby. Three non-ARC shelters are open in King County.

State actions

State actions are coordinated through the State EOC at Camp Murray. The State EOC is operated by the Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD) of the Washington Military Department 24 hours a day and will be fully activated until further notice.

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